GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:654
ANSWERED ON:12.07.2004
SUBSIDY IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR
Gadakh Shri Tukaram Gangadhar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture sector employs more persons than Industrial sector;

(b) if so, the total number of persons employed in the Agricultural sector;

(c) whether the Government has reduced subsidy on agricultural inputs such as fertilizers, seeds, diesel and petrol;

(d) if so, whether this have adversely affected the farmers;

(e) if so, whether the Government proposed to provide more subsidies to this sector; and

(f) if so, the quantum of subsidy proposed to be provided alongwith the amount reduced?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. As per the 55th round (July 1999 - June 2000) of Employment and Unemployment survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization, the estimated number of workers based on Current Daily Status in the Agricultural Sector stood at 190.94 million in 1999-2000 as compared to 56.89 million in the Industrial Sector during the same period.

(c) to (f): Subsidies to agriculture sector on inputs comprising fertilizers, electricity, irrigation, and other subsidies given to marginal farmers and farmers` cooperative societies in the form of seeds, development of oilseeds, pulses, etc., are given in Annexure.

Annexure

Statement referred to in reply to parts (C) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 654 to be answered on 12.07.2004

Subsidies to Agriculture Sector

Rs. in Crores

Sl. No.	Item	1998-99 (Actuals)	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03(+)
1.	Fertiliser (Total)	11596	13244	13800	12595	11009
1.1	Indeginous fertilizer	7473	8670	9480	8044	7499
1.2	Imported Fertilizer	333	74	1	47	10
	Sale of decontrolled fertilizer with concession to farmers.	3790	4500	4319	4504	3500
2.	Electricity @@	3819	4276	6056	9342	NA
3.	Irrigation ##	11827	11487	13756	13309	12788
4.	Other subsidies given to	1182	1937	927	978	NA

marginal farmers and farmers` Cooperative Societies in the form of seeds, development of oil seeds, pulses etc.					
Total	28424	30944	34539	36224	23797

Source:

1. Fertilisers: Expenditure Budget 2003-04, Vol. I of Central Government

2. Electricity & Irrigation : Central Statistical Organization

NA : Not available.

@@ : Includes all subsidies to Electricity Boards and Corporations, Separate estimates of Electricity subsidy accountable exclusively to agricultural sector are not available

: The rates for supply of water to farmers are kept low as a matter of policy, resulting in losses to the Government irrigation system. The excess of operating costs over the gross revenue is treated as imputed irrigation subsidy.

+ : Quick estimates.